CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure comprising:

an eventname field containing data representing a simulation event; and

a design entity field containing data representing an entity name of a design entity from which said simulation event is generated.

2. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said simulation event is a count event, a fail event, or a harvest event.

3. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said data structure further comprises an instantiation identifier field containing data specifying an instance of said design entity from which said simulation event is generated.

4. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said data structure further comprises an instrumentation entity field containing data representing an instrumentation entity that generates said simulation event from within said design entity.

5. The computer-readable medium of claim 4, wherein said design entity field and said instrumentation entity field produce a unique event namespace for each instrumentation entity associated with said design entity.

6. The computer-readable medium of claim 4, wherein said

instrumentation entity field contains the name of an embedded instrumentation entity.

7. The computer-readable medium of claim 4, wherein said instrumentation entity field further contains data specifying an instance of said instrumentation entity that generates said simulation event from within said design entity.

8. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said simulation event is defined in an instrumentation entity comment, and wherein said data within said eventname field includes the name given to said simulation event within said instrumentation entity description comment.

9. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said design entity name is unique with respect to entity names of other design entities.

10. A method for processing a simulation event during model simulation, said method comprising:

associating a design entity identifier with a simulation event; and

evaluating occurrences of said simulation event within said simulation model in accordance with said design entity identifier.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said design entity identifier includes a design entity name, and wherein said associating step further comprises encoding said design entity name within a hardware description language declaration of said simulation event.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said design entity identifier further includes a design entity instantiation identifier, and wherein said associating step further comprises encoding said design entity instantiation identifier within said hardware description language declaration of said simulation event.

13. The method of claim 10, further comprising associating an eventname with said simulation event.

14. The method of claim 10, further comprising associating an instrumentation entity with said simulation event, wherein said instrumentation entity is instantiated within said design entity.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising generating at least one instance of said design entity.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said generating step further comprises generating an instrumentation instance data structure wherein said simulation event is declared.